Cole Layer Trumble Company

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Calumet Township Property Owners Urged Not to Wait Until the Last Minute to Schedule Property Appeal

February 11th Deadline Approaches

SCHERERVILLE, Indiana. — **January 30, 2004,** — The February 11th deadline is approaching for Calumet Township property owners to schedule a meeting to discuss their new property assessments. Cole Layer Trumble (CLT), the company responsible for appraising the 250,000 Lake County properties, is urging property owners not to wait until the last minute.

CLT has been holding the meetings in their Schererville office for other parts of the county since October 2003. According to Project Supervisor Larry Vales, the process has gone smoothly. "We refer to these as 'informal' meetings because it gives the property owner a chance to ask questions," said Vales. "According to our customer satisfaction surveys, the vast majority of property owners felt the hearings were conducted in a professional and satisfactory manner."

Calumet was the last township to receive assessment notices, or Form 11s. All property owners have been given 45 days from the date listed on the Form 11 to schedule a meeting with the reassessment company. Taxpayers are encouraged to provide the company with a few choice appointment times when they call to schedule their appointment.

To date, the owners of nearly 25,000 parcels have called CLT to discuss their properties. Property owners who did not call to request a hearing will have their next opportunity to appeal their property assessment in Tax Year 2004.